



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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## THE USE OF LIMITED ACCESS STATE HIGHWAYS

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## THE USE OF LIMITED ACCESS STATE HIGHWAYS

### Section 14-298-235 SPEED

The maximum speed limit for all vehicles on limited access state highways shall be 55 miles per hour, except as otherwise established by the State Traffic Commission.

### Section 14-298-236 DEFINITIONS

As used in sections 14-298-237 to 14-298-252, inclusive, the following terms shall be construed as follows:

- (a) "Camper" means any motor vehicle primarily equipped, designed, converted or used for private living quarters by one or more individuals;
- (b) "Commercial motor vehicle" means any motor vehicle designed for the transportation of merchandise or freight and bearing commercial motor vehicle registration;
- (c) "Commission" means state traffic commission;
- (d) "Commissioner" means commissioner of transportation;
- (e) "Emergency vehicle" means all police and ambulance vehicles and fire apparatus responding to an official call or performing an actual service;
- (f) "Highway right-of-way" means the entire area, including highways, bridges, buildings, structures and lands, encompassed by the lateral property lines purchased and owned by the state for the construction and maintenance of highways, bridges and access to service facilities. Where "highway" is used herein, it shall be interpreted as meaning or including the highway right-of-way;
- (g) "Limited access state highway" means any state highway so designated under the provisions of Section 13b-27 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as revised, so as to allow access only at highway intersections or designated points;
- (h) "Median divider" means the portion of a divided highway separating the traveled ways for traffic in opposite directions;

- (i) "Motor scooter" or "motorized bicycle" means any motor vehicle having a saddle or seat for the use of the operator and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground at a maximum sustained speed of less than fifty-five miles per hour;
- (j) "Motor vehicle" means any vehicle propelled or drawn by motor power, specifically designated for transportation of passengers or commodities, not including agricultural tractors or farm implements, electric wheel chairs, motorized bicycles and motor scooters;
- (k) "Parked vehicle" means a motor vehicle in a stationary position within the limits of the highway right of way;
- (l) "Parkway" means any state highway receiving special treatment in landscaping and marginal planting, especially designed for, and devoted exclusively to, the use and accommodation of noncommercial motor vehicle traffic, and to which access may be allowed only at highway intersections designated by the commissioner and designed by him so as to eliminate cross traffic of vehicles.
- (m) "Passenger motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle designed and used for the purpose of transporting persons with their necessary personal belongings;
- (n) "Passenger and commercial motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle designed for use and used for passenger and commercial purposes;
- (o) "Pedestrian" means any person on foot;
- (p) "Shoulder" means that portion of a highway for emergency use immediately adjacent and contiguous to the travel lanes;
- (q) "Travel lane" means that portion of the highway for the forward movement of a single line of vehicles;
- (r) "Wrecker or wrecker vehicle" means a vehicle which is properly registered, designed, equipped and used exclusively for the purpose of towing for compensation wrecked or disabled motor vehicles.

#### **Section 14-298-237 COMPLIANCE**

All persons using limited access state highways shall comply with the commission rules and regulations, signs, signals and markings except as follows:

- (a) When engaged in official duties, personnel of the commission, department of transportation, motor vehicle department, state and local police departments and operators of emergency vehicles shall be exempt from these regulations;
- (b) Contractors and their employees engaged in construction, maintenance and/or landscaping or surveys directly related to traffic with the written approval of the commissioner or his authorized representative shall be exempt from these regulations.

#### **Section 14-298-238 RESTRICTED USE OF LIMITED ACCESS STATE HIGHWAYS**

The following are prohibited from entry upon and use of the highway right of way of the parkways and other limited access state highways:

- (a) Pedestrians, except during emergencies or except on facilities specifically provided therefore;
- (b) Animals, other than in vehicles and horses ridden or led on bridle paths provided by proper authorities;
- (c) Bicycles, except on paths specifically provided therefore;
- (d) Motorized bicycles and motor scooters;
- (e) Vehicles drawn or propelled other than by motor power;
- (f) Self-propelled or drawn construction and agricultural equipment or equipment not designed or employed in general highway transportation, except contractors' vehicles performing in accordance with department of transportation contracts directly connected with the facility and only via the nearest entrance to and exit from the work site;
- (g) Vehicles in tow by a non-rigid connection;
- (h) Vehicles with car top loads which extend beyond the lateral limits of the vehicle.

#### **Section 14-298-239 SLOW VEHICLES**

Vehicles unable to maintain a reasonable speed shall be driven within the extreme right travel lane of the highway and removed from the highway at the nearest exit.

**Section 14-298-240    DISABLED VEHICLES**

Disabled vehicles shall be immediately removed from the travel lanes and shall be removed from the highway as promptly as possible by the owner or his agent, or by a law enforcement agency at the owner's expense. Such vehicles shall be towed by duly authorized and properly equipped wrecker vehicles, using a rigid tow bar and shall use the extreme right hand travel lane.

**Section 14-298-241    PARKING IN HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY**

No person shall allow his vehicle to remain standing or parked within the highway right of way except in areas provided for this purpose and in obedience to signs, signals or the directions of officers.

**Section 14-298-242    PICKING UP OR DISCHARGING PASSENGERS**

Picking up or discharging passengers within the highway right of way is prohibited except in areas designed for such purposes.

**Section 14-298-243    HITCHHIKING**

- (a) Hitchhiking, soliciting of rides and loitering are prohibited within the highway right of way.
- (b) The picking up of hitchhikers within the highway right of way is prohibited.

**Section 14-298-244    REPEALED NOVEMBER 5, 1999.**

**Section 14-298-245    PROHIBITED MOVEMENTS**

- (a) "U" turns and crossing the median divider are prohibited.
- (b) Backing of vehicles on the highway is prohibited.
- (c) No vehicle shall be operated in a direction contrary to the normal or directed flow of traffic.

**Section 14-298-246    CARAVANS**

Vehicles traveling in caravan, convoy or cortege shall use the extreme right travel lane provided for traffic.

**Section 14-298-247 PICNICKING AND CAMPING**

- (a) Picnicking or the lighting of fires is prohibited except at locations provided.
- (b) Camping, hunting or shooting within the highway right of way is prohibited.

**Section 14-298-248 SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF GOODS**

No person, firm or corporation shall distribute, sell or offer for sale any goods within the highway right of way except at facilities provided and as set forth in contracts with the commissioner.

**\* Section 14-298-249 RESTRICTED USE OF PARKWAYS**

The following are prohibited from entry upon and use of the highway right of way of those limited access state highways designated as parkways:

- (a) commercial motor vehicles;
- (b) trailers;
- (c) all towed vehicles except as provided in Section 14-298-240;
- (d) busses;
- (e) hearses when part of a procession or cortege;
- (f) vehicles bearing other than passenger, camper, taxicab, vanpool or hearse registrations and those vehicles bearing combination registrations which have a gross weight in excess of seventy-five hundred pounds;
- (g) vehicles whose dimensions, including any load, exceed one of the following:
  - length - twenty-four feet
  - width - seven feet, six inches
  - height - eight feet

**Section 14-298-250 AUTHORIZED TASKS**

Persons may, with written permission of the commission, perform such tasks on a limited access state highway as are authorized in said written permission subject to such restrictions as set forth by the commission. A copy of said written permission shall be carried by such persons.

**Section 14-298-251 PARKWAY PERMITS**

Permits for entry upon and use of the parkways by vehicles normally excluded therefrom may be issued by the commission when, in its opinion, the interests of public necessity are served thereby. Such permits shall be in writing and shall specify the period of validity of such permit, the parkway or portion thereof and the identity of the vehicle concerned. A copy of the permit shall be carried in the vehicle.

**Section 14-298-252 EMERGENCY PERMISSION**

When emergency requires, the state police commissioner or his authorized representative may grant permission for the use of parkways by vehicles normally excluded therefrom. Such permission shall designate the vehicle or vehicles and shall specify the portion of the parkways over which travel will be permitted.